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Harvard Examines Professor's Role in CIA Paper

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Harvard University is involved in its second controversy within a year over a professor's use of funds from the Central Intelligence Agency.

The first concerned Nadav Safran, who resigned, effective at the end of this semester, as director of Harvard's Center for Middle Eastern Studies following an investigation into his acceptance of two grants from the C.I.A. He will continue as a professor of government.

A. Michael Spence, dean of the university's faculty of arts and sciences, is now investigating whether any Harvard regulations were violated in Samuel P. Huntington's helping Richard K. Betts to write a paper for the C.I.A.

Mr. Huntington is a professor of government. Mr. Betts is a senior fellow at the Brookings Institution and, since last fall, a visiting professor of government at Harvard.

Mr. Betts was not affiliated with Harvard in 1984 when he accepted the C.I.A.'s offer to do a study "on the death of long-standing authoritarian leaders and resultant political instability," he said in an interview.

The agency gave him a grant, he said, and then he paid Mr. Huntington and a research assistant who also participated in the project.

A revised version of the paper that Mr. Betts and Mr. Huntington wrote for the C.I.A. appeared in the winter 1985-86 issue of the journal *International Security*, under the title "Dead Dictators and Rioting Mobs: Does the Demise of Authoritarian Rulers Lead to Political Instability?" One of the journal's editors is a member of the Harvard faculty.

Mr. Betts said the agency had not read the revised version before approving his request to publish it.

'It Never Crossed My Mind'

Mr. Huntington told the *Boston Globe* that he had not officially notified the university about the C.I.A. support for the project. "I didn't think I had any obligation to report this arrangement," he said. "It never crossed my mind that the casual writing of a paper for an outside institution was something that was covered by Harvard guidelines."

Mr. Betts said he had served as an occasional consultant to the C.I.A. since 1980. The Brookings Institution has known about his consulting work and has not been troubled by it, he said, because his work on C.I.A. projects is done on his own time.

The agency had required that it not be identified as a sponsor if Mr. Betts and Mr. Huntington's paper were

ever published. Mr. Betts complied with that because, he said, it is not good for the C.I.A. to be associated with a private consultant's views that could arouse people in countries unfriendly to the United States.

Moreover, he said, authors of articles often do not identify sources of funds, whether from government agencies, foundations, or companies.

Mr. Betts emphasized that the C.I.A. had not required him to maintain complete secrecy about its sponsorship of the project. If he had maintained secrecy, he said, "none of this would have come out."

He added, "I would not have entered into any agreement where we would have had to conceal the sponsorship completely."

If he had wanted to write something for his own purposes on a particular topic, he said, he would not have accepted funds from the C.I.A. or any other group that would have required him to sacrifice control over the project.

Mr. Betts said he had asked Dean Spence for Harvard's regulations regarding scholars' accepting grants from outside organizations. In the future, he said, "I would not want to take on any project not consistent with my responsibilities to Harvard."

—ANGUS PAUL